

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2167

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2011

TOBACCO RELATED DISEASES AND DEATHS

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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the Global Audit Tobacco Survey, India (GATS) report, there is rise in the consumption of tobacco products in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of people addicted to various kinds of tobacco products including Gutkha and Pan Masala in the country, State/UTwise;
- (c) the number of people suffering from cancer and other tobacco related diseases and also die every year therefrom in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the steps taken so far to deter the people from consuming tobacco products alongwith the funds allocated for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to impose a complete ban on the tobacco related products including Gutkha and Pan Masala in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) & (b) As per the Global Adult Tobacco Survey, India (GATS), 2010 more than one third (34.6%) of adults (15 years and older) in India use tobacco in some form or the other. The use of smokeless tobacco (25.9%) is more prevalent than smoking (14.1%). The number of tobacco users in India is 274.9 million, of which 111.2 million are tobacco smokers and 206 million are users of smokeless tobacco products. The detailed consumption of various kinds of tobacco products by the people are enclosed as Annexure-I.

(c) As per the data from Population Based Cancer Registries under the National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research, the estimated number of cancer of tongue, mouth and hypopharynx was 66,129, 68,160 and 70, 261 during the year 2008, 2009, 2010 respectively. As per report of Tobacco Control in India, 2004, approx. 8-9 Lakh persons die annually due to tobacco attributable diseases.

(d) Government of India enacted "The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products

(Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" (COTPA) to protect citizens, with special attention to risk groups such as pregnant women and children, and to discourage consumption of cigarettes and other tobacco products. The salient features of the Act are as under :-

i. Ban on smoking in public places. (Section -4)

ii. Ban on direct/indirect advertisement, promotion and sponsorship of tobacco products. (Section -5)

iii. Ban on sale of tobacco products to children below 18 years & ban on sale of tobacco products within 100 yards of the educational institution. (Section-6)

iv. Mandatory display of Specified health warnings on all tobacco products. (Section - 7)

The National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) was launched in 2007-08 with the objective of enforcing the provisions under COTPA, 2003, creating awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco use and as an obligation to FCTC. Presently, the NTCP is under implementation in 21 States (42 districts). The funds were also released to these states for setting up State/ Districts Tobacco Control Cells for carrying out the various activities under NTCP. Details funds allocations to States are annexed at Annexure-II. The programme broadly envisages-National level

- I. National level public awareness/mass media campaigns for awareness building & for behavioral change through various medium.
- II. Establishment of tobacco product testing laboratories, to build regulatory capacity, as required under COTPA, 2003.
- III. Mainstreaming the program components as a part of the health delivery mechanism under the NRHM framework.
- IV. Mainstream Research & Training – on alternate crops and livelihoods with other nodal Ministries,
- V. Monitoring and Evaluation including surveillance e.g. Adult Tobacco Survey.

State level

- i. Dedicated tobacco control cells for effective implementation and monitoring of Anti Tobacco Initiatives.

District level

- i. Training of health and social workers, NGOs, school teachers etc.
- ii. Local IEC activities.
- iii. School programme
- iv. Setting up tobacco cessation centres
- v. Monitoring of tobacco control Act.

(e) & (f) Presently, no such proposal to impose a complete ban on tobacco products is the country in under consideration.